

WILDLIFE INPUT for the MUSSEY HOMESTEAD FUELS PROJECT

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Reviewed by:
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It is my determination that the Mussey Homestead Fuels Project would not involve any extraordinary circumstances related to wildlife, and there would be no effect to any wildlife species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. My rationale for this determination and finding is based upon the following:

- Field reviews¹ reveal that areas proposed for treatment do not include suitable habitat associated with any wildlife species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act².
- The areas proposed for treatment do not include Designated Critical Habitat for any wildlife species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.
- Project work that produces loud and continuous noise (e.g. chainsaw work) or smoke (from intentional burning) would not take place from February 1 through July 31 to avoid the potential of disturbing the reproductive activities of any northern spotted owls that may occur in nearby suitable habitat.
- Areas proposed for treatment do not lie in proximity to streams where aquatic habitat would potentially be affected.
- Prior to or during implementation, if new information from the State or other verified sources shows there are reproducing wolves within five miles of project activities, the Forest will contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service for technical assistance and discuss the need for consultation. This development is improbable.

This project is in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and policies related to wildlife, including: the National Environmental Policy Act; federal Endangered Species Act; Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; Migratory Bird Treaty Act; Forest Service Sensitive Species and Survey and Manage programs; and all aspects of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

¹ A habitat field review of the project area was conducted by Mark Goldsmith (Wildlife Biologist, Shasta-Trinity National Forest) on August 14, 2018.

² The Federally Listed gray wolf is a habitat generalist but is not known or expected to occur in the project vicinity.